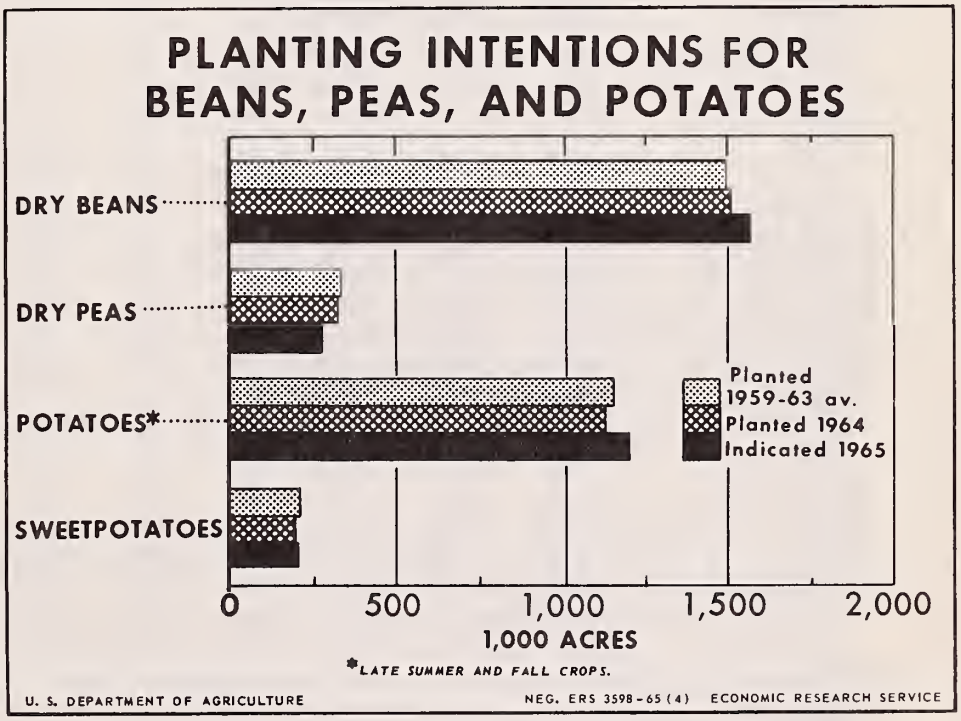
VEGETABLE SITUATION

TVS-156 APRIL 196

Farmers in early March reported intentions to increase moderately their acreages of dry beans, potatoes, and sweetpotatoes, probably in part because of relatively high prices for 1964 crops. With average yields, the intended acreages would result in substantially more dry beans and potatoes this year than last, and supplies of both likely would be large relative to anticipated trade needs. Sweetpotato production would be up moderately from last year, but a little below average.

Prices for dry peas have been low. Growers plan 13 percent less acreage than in 1964. With recent average yields, production would be down substantially.



FOR 3 P.M. EDT RELEASE, MAY4

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PRESS SERVICE
OFFICE OF INFORMATION
U. S. Dept. of Agriculture

Published quarterly by
ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE • U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Table 1.--Vegetables and melons for fresh market: Reported commercial acreage and production of principal crops, selected seasons, average 1959-63, 1964 and indicated 1965 1/

Seasonal group and crop	Acreage					Production				
			1965					1965		
	Average 1959-63	1964	Indicated	Percentage of average	Percentage of 1964	Average 1959-63	1964	Indicated	Percentage of average	Percentage of 1964
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Pct.	Pct.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	Pct.	Pct.
Winter 2/	245,200	241,820	258,865	106	107	34,686	36,919	38,442	111	104
Spring:										
Asparagus										
early and mid 2/	86,980	82,200	71,700	82	87	2,414	2,179	2,055	85	94
late 2/	64,060	64,360	64,010	100	99	1,292	1,246	n.a.	--	--
Beans, lima	3,240	3,100	2,900	90	94	76	73	n.a.	--	--
Beans, snap										
early and mid 3/	26,940	27,200	25,000	93	92	455	547	449	99	82
Beets	470	440	440	94	100	44	40	39	89	98
Broccoli 2/5/	13,240	11,700	11,900	90	102	962	1,053	952	99	90
Cabbage										
early 2/	12,800	11,650	11,550	90	99	1,692	1,700	1,561	92	92
late 2/	7,370	7,130	7,600	103	107	1,002	950	n.a.	--	--
Cantaloups	31,680	37,800	36,700	116	97	3,866	3,438	n.a.	--	--
Carrots 4/	2,300	2,800	2,600	113	93	441	322	650	147	202
Cauliflower 5/	8,000	7,700	7,400	92	96	716	770	666	93	86
Celery	7,420	7,300	7,000	94	96	3,389	3,479	3,264	96	94
Corn, sweet 5/	39,740	40,600	40,400	102	100	2,831	2,885	2,911	103	101
Cucumbers 5/	10,660	12,200	12,300	115	101	936	1,342	1,171	125	87
Eggplant	1,100	1,000	1,000	91	100	136	140	135	99	96
Lettuce 5/	42,010	40,350	34,900	83	86	7,485	6,476	6,302	84	97
Onions 2/										
early	24,480	24,600	23,100	94	94	2,609	3,813	3,003	115	79
late	8,790	7,000	6,500	74	93	2,071	1,898	n.a.	--	--
Peas, green 5/	3,100	2,200	2,200	71	100	130	121	99	76	82
Peppers, green	7,820	7,300	7,100	91	97	661	760	692	105	91
Shallots	680	400	450	66	112	18	11	14	78	127
Spinach	5,800	4,930	5,310	92	108	335	296	338	95	114
Tomatoes 5/	32,560	25,100	23,000	71	92	3,698	3,167	3,225	87	102
Watermelons										
late	76,180	69,700	76,300	100	109	9,306	9,551	n.a.	--	--
Summer: 6/										
Cabbage										
early 2/	7,530	7,780	8,130	108	104	1,498	1,413	n.a.	--	--
late 2/	17,870	16,550	17,850	100	108	3,616	3,190	n.a.	--	--
Garlic 2/	3,800	4,400	4,600	121	105	343	484	n.a.	--	--
Onions										
early	9,680	9,660	9,450	98	98	2,181	2,317	n.a.	--	--
late	56,410	57,220	59,670	106	104	18,574	17,725	n.a.	--	--
Watermelons										
early	210,100	203,000	201,400	96	99	16,035	15,195	n.a.	--	--
late	32,710	32,200	33,500	102	104	4,065	3,599	n.a.	--	--

1/ Exclude Alaska and Hawaii, which are not divided into seasonal groups.
2/ Includes processing.
3/ Production for early spring only.
4/ Arizona winter carrots included with spring season.
5/ Acreage and production for early spring only.
6/ 1965 prospective acreage.
n.a.--not available.
Vegetables-Fresh Market, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

THE VEGETABLE SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, April 26, 1965

CONTENTS

SUMMARY

Supplies of fresh vegetables this spring are expected to be moderately smaller than both last year and the 1959-63 average. Substantially smaller supplies are in prospect for cabbage, snap beans, cucumbers and green peppers, while production of celery and lettuce is down moderately. The spring onion supply is much smaller than last year but above average, and there probably will be slightly more tomatoes and sweet corn this year than last. Marketings of fresh spring vegetables are increasing seasonally, but with output of most items below a year ago, prices overall are expected to average relatively high.

Remaining supplies of canned and frozen vegetables are moderately smaller than a year earlier, although materially above average. Consumer demand for processed vegetables continues strong; utilization is running at a high rate, and prices generally are above a year ago. Carryovers into the 1965 packing season probably will be considerably smaller than in recent years. Intentions reports indicate relatively large acreage increases for most processing vegetables this year. Tomatoes are the major exception, with intended plantings down substantially. The prospective total acreage, assuming average yields and expected carryover, would result in an aggregate canned vegetable supply for the 1965-66 marketing season about the same as this season. Frozen vegetable supplies would be up moderately.

Because of light supplies of old-crop potatoes, prices continue high. However, harvest of spring crops is underway; marketings will increase rapidly in coming weeks, with seasonally heavy volume available in June. Since prospective spring-crop tonnage is large, prices are expected to average well below the high levels of a year ago.

Growers reported intentions to plant slightly less acreage of potatoes for early summer harvest this year than last, but planned acreage for late summer-fall crops is up substantially. The prospective summer-fall acreage, assuming recent average yields, would result in a production sharply above probable market needs, with prices very low.

In early March, producers reported intentions to increase sweetpotato acreage 4 percent over last year. Such an acreage, with average yields, would result in a production moderately above the small 1964 output, but a little below the 1959-63 average.

Supplies of dry edible beans continue to be materially smaller than a year earlier. Among colored classes, supplies of red kidney beans are up slightly, but those of pinto, pink, and small red beans are relatively light. Although stocks of white classes--including pea beans and Great Northerns--also are well below a year ago, markets were under pressure in early spring and prices averaged the same to slightly below a year earlier. Intentions reports indicate farmers plan 4 percent more acreage than last year. Average yields on the prospective acreage would result in a substantially larger supply of dry beans in the 1965-66 season than in the current season.

Dry pea supplies are heavy, markets are weak, and prices remain low. Growers plan a substantial reduction in acreage. With recent average yields and expected carryover, the intended acreage would result in a moderately smaller supply for the 1965-66 season than that available this season. The prospective supply would, however, probably exceed trade needs, resulting in continued market pressure.

COMMERCIAL VEGETABLES FOR FRESH MARKET

Spring Supplies Moderately Smaller Than Year Ago

Supplies of fresh vegetables for marketing this spring are moderately smaller than last year and the recent 5-year average. Acreage of nearly all crops is smaller this year than last, and early reports indicate generally lower yields. Total production of 19 vegetables, which normally provide about three-fourths of spring-vegetable tonnage, is expected to be down 7 percent from last spring, with output of most major vegetables smaller. Onion supplies will be down sharply because of moderately less acreage and much lower yields in south Texas. Due primarily to lower yields, tonnage of early spring broccoli, cabbage, snap beans, cucumbers, and spring peppers will be materially smaller than in 1964. The early spring lettuce crop is slightly below last year and considerably below average as a result of large acreage cuts in the West. Only a few items will be in heavier supply. Fresh spring sweet corn supplies probably will be up slightly, and substantially more spring spinach is likely.

Early spring tomato tonnage is a little above last year, but considerably below average. Spring watermelon acreage is up substantially from 1964, but cantaloup plantings are smaller.

Early season weather problems have been severe this year, hampering crop development in all spring-crop areas. Strong winds affected Florida and Texas vegetables, considerable delays occurred in the Southeast because of cold weather, and unseasonable rains fell in the Southwest. Fresh vegetable marketings during April ran below year-earlier levels, and prices averaged much higher. However, seasonally increasing supplies are in prospect during the next 6 to 8 weeks. Distorted harvest schedules may result in marketing problems for several items. But, with supplies of most vegetables below last year, prices to growers are likely to average close to the high levels of a year earlier.

Early reports indicate vegetable growers intend slight reductions in early summer acreages of watermelons and onions, but late summer plantings of both may be up moderately from last year. Intended cabbage acreage is up moderately for early summer harvest, and up substantially for late summer.

Prospects for Leading Fresh Vegetables

Cabbage--Supplies of cabbage this spring are expected to be down considerably from last spring. Remaining winter crop supplies are a little smaller than in 1964, and first reports point to materially less early spring tonnage. Production in the Southeast, which usually accounts for three-fifths of the early spring crop, is 12 percent smaller than last year due to low yields. California's early spring crop, marketed in the Pacific Coast States, is down slightly; high yields are likely, but acreage is smaller. Growers of cabbage for late spring harvest boosted acreage 7 percent, partly in response to strong markets last year.

Florida and Texas, which typically furnish 75 to 80 percent of the April cabbage supply to eastern and midwestern markets, grew moderately more cabbage this year than last. However, most of the larger tonnage moved early in the year. Marketings during April were below those of a year earlier, and prices averaged substantially higher. Delayed harvests of early spring crops contributed to the market strength. Harvests in both early and late spring States will be seasonally heavy during May. Because of unfavorable weather, marketings may overlap more than usual, with prices averaging well below the high levels of a year earlier.

Cabbage production last summer was light due to drought; prices were the highest in a decade. Growers have reported intentions to have 4 percent more acreage of cabbage for early summer harvest, and 8 percent more for late summer harvest. With average yields, early summer tonnage would be materially larger than last year and the recent 5-year average. Late summer output would be considerably above 1964, but about average.

Celery--Celery supplies this spring are moderately smaller than both a year ago and average. Expected output in Florida is down substantially from last year because of less acreage and lower yields. California's prospective spring tonnage is moderately smaller than in 1964, with less acreage more than offsetting expected higher yields.

Despite some delays caused by adverse weather, harvest of spring celery increased during April. With total marketings about as large as last year, prices f.o.b. Florida shipping points, averaged $2.40 per crate in late April compared with $2.22 a year earlier. Declining Florida volume is in prospect the next 4 to 6 weeks, and with overall production below last season, prices likely will average above the moderate prices of a year ago.

Carrots--Production of winter crop carrots totaled 8 percent smaller this winter than last. California's output was well above the small crop in 1964, but tonnage in Texas (the dominant winter-supply source) was down sharply. Although below a year ago, supplies through the winter were more than adequate for trade needs, and prices stayed near the depressed levels of last year. As Texas harvest declined in April and an important volume was exported, markets strengthened. Prices, f.o.b. south Texas shipping points, averaged $2.02 per 48 one-pound-film bags in late April compared with a low $1.82 a year earlier.

With remaining supplies in Texas apparently relatively light, markets during May are expected to be at least as strong as a year earlier, despite seasonally heavy marketings of winter-crop carrots from the Imperial Valley of California. Arizona will be the important supply source in the first half of June. Prospective output is sharply above last year because of anticipated higher yields. Additional supplies will be available by late June from summer crops in central coast areas of California.

Lettuce--Following last year's near-record high prices, growers of winter lettuce boosted acreage substantially in 1965, and produced a record-large crop. Although California harvests frequently were curtailed under State Marketing Order regulations, supplies were excessive all season, and distress prices prevailed.

Supplies for spring marketing are slightly smaller than last year and materially below the recent 5-year average. Early spring production, which typically accounts for 85 percent of the total spring supply, is expected to be 3 percent below the small 1964 output. Prospective tonnage in Arizona is down 7 percent because of a fifth less acreage. Growers in California also have much less acreage, but output may be close to a year ago if early yield prospects hold up. Both New Mexico and North Carolina (which grow only a fraction of the total spring supply) have more acreage this year than last, and expect to harvest considerably more lettuce than in 1964.

Heavy rains hampered lettuce harvests in major western-producing areas during April. F.o.b. prices ranged from moderate to high, and averaged more than double the low prices of a year earlier. Both Arizona and California are expected to furnish ample supplies in May; prices likely will average about the same as the low prices of 1964.

Onions--Onion supplies this spring are above average but sharply below the burdensome supplies of last year. Early spring production in Texas, at 3.0 million hundredweight, is more than a fifth smaller than in 1964. While indicated output in all Texas areas is below a year ago, most of the decline occurred in the Lower Rio Grande Valley where both acreage and yields are smaller.

Early prospects for the 1965 spring marketing season suggested a repeat of last year, with prices depressed due to heavy remaining stocks of old-crop onions together with an unusually large new crop. But a strong foreign demand moved the old-crop surplus, and because of poor weather, new-crop yields failed to meet first indications. Total onion marketings during April were substantially less than a year earlier, area harvests overlapped less than usual, and prices averaged considerably higher. Supplies are expected to continue smaller through spring, with prices well above the depressed levels of last year.

The acreage of onions for late spring harvest is 7 percent smaller than last year and 26 percent below the 1959-63 average. Growers in California, who typically produce three-fifths of the total late spring tonnage, have the same acreage as in 1964. Growers in North Carolina also made no change. But acreage is down moderately in Arizona, and sharply in both Texas and Georgia. The smaller acreage, with recent average yields, would result in moderately fewer onions this year than in 1964. Light harvest has begun; peak marketings are expected in June.

Growers have reported intentions to reduce acreage of onions for early summer harvest 2 percent below 1964. Recent average yields would result in moderately fewer early summer onions than in 1964. Intended acreage for late summer harvest is up 4 percent, and with average yields, tonnage would be materially larger. The indicated late summer output would exceed probable market needs, resulting in prices averaging much below those of a year earlier.

Tomatoes--Because of a much larger acreage, Florida's fresh tomato output this winter was sharply above last year, and record-large. Marketings were heavy through February, with prices the lowest in several years. Markets strengthened in March, however, as unfavorable weather reduced yields.

Early spring tonnage is expected to total slightly more than last year. Most of the increase is in California where both acreage and yields are up from a year ago. Production in Texas also is expected to be larger this year than last. But the prospective crop is far below the 1959-63 average because of less acreage; per-acre value has been very low in recent years. Florida growers have more acreage this year, but yields may be lower and expected tonnage is down.

Shipments from Florida are expected to peak in early May, while Texas volume normally is heaviest in the first-half of June. Prices during April averaged a little above the high levels of last April. Although marketings likely will increase during the next 4 to 6 weeks, total volume is expected to be smaller than a year earlier, with prices continuing higher than a year earlier.

Cantaloups--Supplies of cantaloups this spring may be larger than last year. Total domestic acreage is slightly less than in 1964, with smaller plantings in California and Arizona more than offsetting larger acreages in both Texas and Florida. Despite fewer acres, output will be considerably larger than in 1964 if yields are near average. Weather last year was particularly harsh. Growing conditions so far have been favorable; volume supplies are expected during the latter half of May.

Imports from Mexico also may be larger this year than last. Following the very profitable 1964 season--when yields and prices were high--melon acreage on the West Coast of Mexico was expanded. Although a cold snap in March caused some damage, ample supplies are available for movement to the United States. Import volume during April was about the same as a year ago. Peak marketings are expected in May.

Watermelons--Partly in response to high prices in 1964, acreage of spring watermelons is up substantially. California acreage is 13 percent above last year, and with average yields, output would be sharply higher. Growers in Florida have 71,000 acres for late spring harvest, 9 percent more than in 1964. Most of the increase occurred in the more southerly areas of the state, which will be marketing in peak volume during May. Adverse late winter damaged central and northern-area crops. Because of considerable replanting and crop delays, overlapping harvests are likely.

Summer watermelon supplies may be a little larger this year than last. Early reports indicate acreage will be close to that of a year ago, and with average yields, total summer tonnage would be up slightly.

PROCESSED VEGETABLES

Use of processed vegetables this winter was a little below the record high of last winter primarily due to smaller supplies of most items and generally higher prices. Despite slower movement, total supplies of both canned and frozen vegetables available into mid-1964 continue below year-earlier levels.

Remaining canned vegetable stocks, in total, probably are down moderately from a year ago. Supplies of asparagus, snap beans, carrots, and sweet corn are considerably smaller than the burdensome supplies of last year, but close to the 1959-63 average. Stocks of lima beans, pumpkin and squash, peas, and kraut are much smaller than in 1964, and the supply of each is tight. Although down from last year, supplies of beets continue large relative to trade needs. Only spinach, tomatoes, and tomato products are in larger supply this year compared with last.

Total frozen vegetable supplies (excluding potatoes) on April 1 amounted to 714 million pounds compared to 745 million last year. Cold storage holdings of snap beans, Brussels sprouts, mixed vegetables, and spinach are larger than

a year ago. But stocks of all other frozen vegetables are smaller. Supplies of peas are down slightly, and those of asparagus, broccoli, cauliflower, sweet corn, and carrots are substantially smaller than a year ago. Remaining supplies of frozen lima beans are down sharply.

Mid-1965 Carryovers Probably Smaller Than a Year Ago

Prices for processed vegetables this season generally have been running above year-earlier levels. Among leading canned items, prices during April were moderately higher for snap beans, and sharply higher for sweet corn and kraut. Prices for tomatoes and tomato products were close to a year ago and moving up because smaller new packs appear likely. Frozen vegetable prices ranged from slightly higher for peas to sharply higher for limas and sweet corn. Processed spinach and beets were the only major commodities facing continued market pressure.

Canned and frozen vegetable use during the remainder of the season is expected to continue at a high rate. As usual, few price changes are likely until crop and pack prospects take shape in late summer. Carryovers of both canned and frozen vegetables into the 1965 packing season are expected to be considerably smaller than the high levels of recent years.

More Processing Acreage This Year Than Last

Processors are planning moderate to substantial acreage increases for most vegetables this year. March and April intentions reports for 9 vegetables, which account for about 90 percent of the annual processing tonnage, indicated a moderately larger total acreage of these crops than last year (table 1). Canners reported a moderate increase in intended green pea plantings, substantially more acres in lima beans, snap beans, and sweet corn, and prospective contract acreage of cabbage for kraut is up sharply. Acreage of beets for canning may be about the same as in 1965. But processors indicated intentions for a moderate cut in plantings of cucumbers for pickles, and a tenth less acreage in processing tomatoes. Processing spinach acreage this winter was smaller, yields were lower, and tonnage was substantially smaller than in 1964. Freezers reported intentions to have moderately more acreage in green peas and lima beans, and materially more in snap beans. Prospective acreage of sweet corn for freezing is up sharply from last year.

Recent average yields on the intended acreages would result in a slightly larger total processing vegetable tonnage than in 1964. Production of canning crops--and canned pack--would be about the same as last year, with considerably fewer tomatoes offsetting substantial increases in other vegetables. With expected carryovers, aggregate supplies of canned vegetables next season would be close to those of this season. Snap beans and beets would be the only commodities in relatively heavy supply.

Table 2.--Vegetables for commercial processing: Prospective plantings

Crop	Planted acreage			1965 as percentage of	
	Average 1959-63	1964	Prospective 1965	Average 1959-63	1964
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Percent	Percent
Beans, green lima					
Freezing	59,800	55,790	59,400	99	106
Canning	31,390	23,260	26,940	86	116
Beans, snap					
Freezing	45,740	57,310	62,430	136	109
Canning	142,880	171,010	189,220	132	111
Beets for canning	17,110	16,590	16,530	97	100
Cabbage for kraut, contract only	8,330	7,580	9,580	115	126
Corn, sweet					
Freezing	81,370	85,240	102,850	126	121
Canning	362,970	283,160	315,200	87	111
Cucumbers for pickles	111,040	118,110	110,890	100	94
Peas, green					
Freezing	149,180	158,370	167,920	113	106
Canning	254,850	275,450	291,480	114	106
Spinach, winter	9,720				
Freezing	---	4,900	4,960	---	101
Canning	---	5,600	4,640	---	83
Tomatoes	293,710	270,640	243,620	83	90
Total 9 crops 1/	1,568,090	1,533,010	1,605,660	102	105

1/ Does not include open market cabbage for kraut nor spring and fall spinach. Vegetables - Processing, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Production of vegetables for freezing--and frozen pack--would be up substantially from last year. But expected smaller carryovers would be partially offsetting. Based on current indications, total supplies of frozen vegetables in the 1965-66 season would be moderately larger than those available this season, and materially above average. Supplies of frozen snap beans, sweet corn, and green peas likely would be record large.

Snap beans--Utilization of canned snap beans was record high in the first half of the 1964-65 marketing season, but declined during the winter because of reduced supplies. Canners' stocks in the East and South are a little above last season's low levels, but stocks in all other areas are down. In the West, where supplies have been particularly burdensome in recent seasons, holdings are about a fifth below those of a year earlier. All regional markets have been strong, with prices averaging moderately higher than last season.

Storage holdings of frozen snap beans are slightly above a year ago, and materially above average. Although supplies are large, market demand apparently is stronger than last season; f.o.b. prices this spring are slightly higher than those that prevailed a year ago.

April intentions reports indicate 11 percent more acres for canning this year than last. Prospective canning acreage is up 9 percent in the East, 12 percent in the Midwest, and 13 percent in the West. The shift from pole to bush varieties will continue in the West; bush beans are lower yielding but can be mechanically harvested. Prospective acreage for freezing is up 9 percent, with large increases in all areas. Assuming average abandonment and yields, 1965 tonnage for canning and freezing would be materially larger than last year. Total supplies of both canned and frozen snap beans next season would be much heavier than this season, and record large.

Lima beans--Although the frozen green lima bean pack in 1964 was about as large as a year earlier, carryover was down and frozen supplies for the 1964-65 season were materially smaller than last season. Despite lighter supplies and higher prices, movement so far this season is close to that of a year earlier. Cold-storage holdings April 1, at 63 million pounds, were a fourth smaller than a year ago and 22 percent below the 1959-63 average. Planted acreage for freezing may be 6 percent larger in 1965 than in 1964. Intended plantings of the Fordhook variety, grown mostly in California, are up 1 percent; prospective acreage in baby limas is up 9 percent. With average yields, total tonnage would be materially above last year. But total supplies in the 1965-66 season would be up only moderately from this season because of the prospective light carryover.

Because of a small carryover and pack, supplies of canned limas are tight this season. Remaining stocks are less than half those of a year ago, and canners' carryover at the end of the season will be almost nil. Canners have reported intentions to increase 1965 acreage 16 percent over last year's plantings. With average yields, tonnage and pack would be up sharply. With the very small carryover, however, total supplies next season would be close to those of this season, and still tight.

Green peas--Because of a small pack, supplies of canned peas have been relatively light this season. Canners' stocks on April 1 amounted to 7.3 million cases (24/303 equivalents), 23 percent less than a year ago. Markets have been strong, with prices running the same to slightly above the high levels of last season. Supplies of frozen peas are a little smaller than a year earlier. Disappearance is holding close to the record rate of last season, and prices are up slightly.

Early March reports point to larger canned and frozen pea supplies in the 1965-66 marketing season. Canners intend to utilize the production from 6 percent more acres this year than last. Prospective canning acreage is up slightly in the West, and moderately in both the Midwest and East. Output on the intended acreage, if yields are average, would be 15 percent larger than a year earlier. But canned supplies in the 1965-66 season would be only moderately above those available this season, since carryover is likely to be small.

Intended acreage for freezing totals 6 percent above last year. Plantings in the East may be down 7 percent. But acreage may be up moderately in the West (which usually accounts for three-fourths of the annual frozen pack), and up sharply in the Midwest. With average yields, tonnage for freezing would be substantially larger than last year. With expected carryover, total frozen supplies in 1965-66 may be about 5 percent above those of this season and record-large. Although use of this commodity is rising, the prospective supply likely would exceed anticipated market needs next season.

Sweet corn--Mainly as a result of a much smaller pack, total supplies of canned corn available this season were materially smaller than last season's burdensome supply. With supplies lighter and prices higher, movement so far has been lagging. Nevertheless, remaining stocks are the smallest in several years. April 1 canners' stocks amounted to 14 million cases (24/303 equivalents), down about a fourth from the high level of a year ago, although only slightly below the 1959-63 average. The 1964 frozen sweet corn pack was about as large as a year earlier, but carryover was down; current supplies are about 14 percent below the large supplies of last season. Prices f.o.b. packing plants for both canned and frozen sweet corn are holding substantially above year-earlier levels. Markets probably will continue strong through mid-summer.

April intentions reports indicate a total acreage for canning 11 percent above last year, with 4 percent more acres in the East, 12 percent more in the Midwest, and 14 percent more in the West. If the intentions are carried out and average yields are realized, canning sweet corn tonnage would be considerably larger than in 1964. But total supplies in the 1965-66 season would be about the same as the moderate supply available this season since carryover this summer will be small.

Freezers intend to use the output from 21 percent more acres this year over last. Prospective plantings would be up slightly in the East, and up sharply in both the Midwest and West. With average yields, freezing tonnage would be much larger than in 1964, and total supplies next season would be the heaviest ever.

Tomatoes--Supplies of canned tomatoes and tomato products in most eastern and midwestern areas were smaller this season than last. However, because of large packs, California supplies of all items were up substantially. Total U. S. supplies were about 5 percent above a year earlier, and sharply above the recent average. Markets in all areas were under pressure during the fall and early winter. Prices averaged slightly below a year earlier for peeled tomatoes and tomato juice, and materially lower for catsup. Prices for other concentrated tomato products remained close to the low levels of last season.

In recent months, however, markets for all items have strengthened. By early April, f.o.b. prices generally were the same to higher than a year earlier. Continued strength is likely. Although a record rate of use may have been partly responsible for the improvement, the market is reacting primarily to indications of a material decline in output in 1965.

Planting intentions reports in early March indicated a processing tomato acreage in California nearly a fourth below a year ago. Despite intended acreage increases in most other leading tomato-growing States, total U.S. plantings would be 10 percent less than last year. With normal abandonment and average yields, production on the prospective acreage would be materially smaller than in 1964. A smaller aggregate pack would more than offset expected large carryovers; overall supplies of canned tomato items in the 1965-66 marketing season likely would be substantially smaller than those of the current season, and the smallest since 1961-62. There probably would be a proportionally sharper cutback in supplies of the concentrate products since California accounts for a major share of the output of these items.

Beets--The pack of canned beets during the summer-fall of 1964 was much smaller than a year earlier. However, because of a large carryover and an increase in pack during the 1965 winter season, supplies continue heavy. Canners' stocks on March 1, 1965, amounted to 6.8 million cases (24/303 equivalents) compared with 7.6 million a year earlier, and the 1959-63 average of 5.1 million. In early April, prices f.o.b. canneries were only slightly above the low levels of a year earlier. Little change is expected during the next 2 to 3 months.

According to April intentions reports, acreage for canning will total about the same this year as last, with a sharp increase in the East about offsetting moderate to substantial acreage reductions in all other beet processing areas. With average yields and abandonment, production would be larger than in 1964. A prospective larger pack would about offset a smaller carryover. Total supplies in 1965-66 would be about the same as the heavy supply available this season.

Sauerkraut--Supplies of sauerkraut available for the 1964-65 season were substantially smaller than those of the previous season. Although disappearance during the fall and winter was less than a year earlier, packers' stocks on April 1 totaled 3.8 million cases (24/303 equivalents), down 30 percent from a year ago. With supplies much below average, prices f.o.b. packing plants are sharply above the low levels of last season. Markets likely will remain strong at least through the summer.

Planting intentions reports in early April indicated a 26 percent larger contract acreage this year than last. If yields are near average, contract production would be sharply above that in 1964. Data are not available on possible open-market purchases of cabbage, which usually account for a third of the total cabbage used for kraut. Open-market purchases were small last year because of high prices.

Spinach--Carryovers of canned and frozen spinach at the beginning of the 1965-66 season were heavy. Canners' stocks on March 1 were a record-large 3.3 million cases (basis 24/303's), nearly a fifth above those of a year earlier. Frozen stocks March 1 amounted to 38 million pounds, 9 percent above the large holdings of a year ago.

Winter season production for processing is expected to be 18 percent below last year's large tonnage. Output in Florida was reduced sharply by

adverse weather. Production in California, which usually accounts for half the total U.S. canned pack and an even larger portion of the frozen pack, is down 14 percent from last year. While the prospective reduction in packs likely will more than offset the heavier carryovers, canned and frozen supplies through the spring and summer probably will be large relative to trade needs, limiting prospects for price improvement from current low levels.

Cucumbers for pickles--April intentions reports indicated 6 percent fewer acres in pickling cucumbers this year compared with last, with reduced plantings in the northern and western regions offsetting a moderate increase in the South. Northern States' acreage may be off 17 percent, mostly because of a sharp cut in Michigan, the leading U.S. producer. In the West, intended acreage in California and Colorado is down substantially; regional plantings may be down 13 percent. Prospective acreage in the South is up 5 percent, due primarily to larger plantings in Texas and North Carolina. Assuming recent average yields and normal abandonment, production this year would be a little larger than in 1964. But carryover probably will be smaller; total supplies in 1965-66 likely will be about the same as those available this season.

POTATOES

Winter Supplies Tight; Prices Record High

Supplies of potatoes were substantially smaller in the winter of 1965 than in 1964. The winter crop amounted to 3.5 million hundredweight, down moderately from last year; a substantial decline in California output due to less acreage and lower yields more than offset in increase in Florida. Storage stocks of old-crop potatoes on January 1, at 98 million hundredweight, were 16 percent smaller than a year earlier, and the smallest in 7 years. Because of the tight supply situation, markets were exceptionally strong. U.S. average prices to growers during January-March were more than double those of the previous winter, and the highest ever for the period.

With supplies below normal and prices high, total disappearance this winter was well below the volume of last winter. Among the various food outlets, unload data indicate that total movement to fresh market and chippers was down considerably, with fresh market use probably off most. Utilization by other food processors, however, was heavier, Freezers were particularly active in response to a strong market demand for their products. As to be expected under prevailing market conditions, movement to non-food outlets--mostly starch and livestock feed--was at a minimum. For the 1964 crop as a whole, residual usage--such as starch, feed, shrink, and waste--probably will be the smallest since the short crops of the early 1950's.

High U.S. prices also attracted more potatoes from Canada. Imports into the United States during the fall and winter, although small relative to domestic supplies, were sharply above average. The low duty quota for tablestock potatoes was filled by mid-November, the earliest ever, while that for certified seed was filled by mid-March. U.S. exports of 1964 crop potatoes were far below normal.

Spring Prospects

Supplies of new spring crop potatoes are expected to be much larger this year than last. Production of early spring potatoes, at 4.8 million hundredweight, is 14 percent larger than in 1964. Although production estimates are not yet available for the late spring crop, total acreage is 26 percent more than in 1964. Acreage in California, which usually provides three-fifths of the late spring tonnage, is 48 percent above the low level of last year, and a tenth above the 1959-63 average. Compared with last year, acreage is up 39 percent in Arizona, 11 percent in North Carolina, 31 percent in Texas, and 4 percent in Alabama. Increases also are indicated in South Carolina and Louisiana. Only Georgia and Oklahoma have less acreage than a year ago. With average yields, late spring crop tonnage will be heavy--sharply above the small crop last year and materially above average.

Spring crop harvests are underway; marketings will increase steadily during May with peak volume due as usual in June. Normally, a supply as large as currently indicated would result in seriously depressed prices. However, because of relatively light remaining stocks of old-crop potatoes, total supplies probably will continue below trade needs through most of May. Also, market demand for new-crop potatoes is expected to be greater this year than last. Fresh market needs will not change much, but processors have contracted for a substantial number of carloads of California potatoes. While these factors lessen the possibility of marketing problems, potato supplies are expected to be ample during the later portion of the spring season, with markets reacting accordingly. Prices to growers likely will average well below the high levels of a year earlier.

Summer-Fall Prospects

Early February intentions reports indicated potato growers intended to plant slightly less total acreage for early summer harvest this year compared with last. California producers reported plans for an increase of 5 percent. Growers in Missouri and Tennessee, and on the Eastern Shore of Virginia planned the same acreage as in 1964. Prospective acreage in all other States would be down. Even if producers hold to their intentions for less acreage, output in 1965 would be substantially larger than last year if average yields are obtained. Output per acre in 1964 was relatively low because of dry weather in the East.

March intentions reports indicated growers of potatoes for late summer and fall harvest intended to plant 1.? million acres, 7 percent more than in 1964. Increases are in prospect in nearly all major States (table 3).

Intended acreage in the West would be up 12 percent. Washington farmers planned an increase of 25 percent. Total plantings in Idaho, which furnishes about a fourth of the total fall crop, would be 14 percent larger. Acreage in the 10 southwestern counties of Idaho, where large new tracts are being developed, would be up 36 percent, while producers in other areas of the State planned 12 percent more. Moderate to substantial increases are in prospect in most other Western States.

Table 3.--Potatoes, late summer and fall: Prospective plantings

Crop and area	Acreage planted			1965 as percentage of 1964
	1959-63 average	1964	Prospective 1965 1/	
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent
Late summer and fall				
Maine	145.6	145.0	151.0	104
New York-Long Island	42.5	38.5	39.0	101
-Upstate	42.8	42.0	44.0	104
Pennsylvania	40.0	39.0	40.0	102
Other States 2/	57.7	53.8	53.8	100
Eastern	328.6	318.3	327.8	103
Michigan	48.2	46.1	51.6	112
Wisconsin	53.4	59.0	61.0	103
Minnesota	112.6	109.3	109.6	100
North Dakota	116.6	114.0	117.0	103
Other States 3/	50.5	43.1	42.9	100
Central	381.3	371.5	382.1	103
Idaho	248.4	251.1	286.0	114
Colorado	57.4	49.8	52.0	104
Washington	37.4	40.0	50.0	125
Oregon	36.5	36.0	38.5	107
California	30.8	33.4	36.0	108
Other States 4/	25.9	22.5	24.1	107
Western	436.4	432.8	486.6	112
Total late summer and fall	1,146.4	1,122.6	1,196.5	106.6

1/ Intended acreage as of March 1.

2/ New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and North Carolina.

3/ Ohio, Indiana, Iowa, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Illinois.

4/ Montana, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, and New Mexico.

Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Intended acreage is up 3 percent in the central areas, mostly because of a substantial increase in Michigan, and slightly more acreage in Wisconsin and the Red River Valley of North Dakota. Growers in Minnesota reported intentions to plant the same acreage this year as last, and a slight reduction is in prospect in Ohio.

Eastern acreage will be up 3 percent if growers hold to their intentions. Maine acreage would be up 4 percent; slight to moderate increases are indicated in most other Northeastern areas. However, producers in New Jersey plan a cut of 4 percent.

Burdensome Production Likely

If the intended late summer and fall acreages are planted and yields near the average of recent years are obtained, production would be much larger than last year and only a fraction below the record crop of 1961. Production as large as indicated would be greatly above probable market needs, meaning a return to the heavy supply-low price situation common in earlier years. In its 1965 Acreage-Marketing Guides, the USDA recommended a 7 percent smaller late summer-fall acreage this year. Growers as a whole would serve their own best interests if they would reconsider the market potential for 1965-crop potatoes, and would plant according to the suggested guide acreages. Detailed recommendations for individual States are provided in the AMG-44, available free from the Marketing Information Division, C&MS, USDA, Washington, D. C. 20250.

SWEETPOTATOES

Supplies Light Prices High

Due to relatively small production in 1964, supplies of sweetpotatoes have been light most of this season. Weekly unloads at the leading terminal markets have stayed slightly to moderately smaller than those of last season, and through mid-April totaled about a tenth less than a year earlier. Prices have been high. The U. S. average price to growers during March was $6.63 per hundredweight compared with $5.65 in March 1964, and was the highest since the early 1950's. As the season draws to a close during the next 6 to 8 weeks, only limited supplies will be available--mostly from North Carolina, New Jersey, Louisiana, and California. Prices likely will continue much above last year.

Acreage Increase Indicated for 1965

In early March, sweetpotato producers reported intentions to plant 194,200 acres, 4 percent more than the record low acreage of last year, but 4 percent less than 1959-63 average. Louisiana, the most important producing State, accounts for a large portion of the expected increase, with growers there

planning 10 percent more acres than last year. Among other important States, substantial increases also are in prospect in North Carolina, Georgia, and Mississippi. Producers in Texas and California expect to plant the same acreage as in 1964. But farmers in New Jersey and Virginia plan to have fewer acres.

Supply Prospects for 1965-66 Season

With yields near the average of recent years, the intended acreage would result in a 1965 production at least moderately above the small tonnage in 1964, but slightly below the 1959-63 average. If the supply indications materialize, prices next season likely would average moderately below the high levels of this season.

DRY EDIBLE BEANS

Supplies Relatively Light; Prices High

Because of reduced output, supplies of dry edible beans for the 1964-65 marketing season were substantially smaller than the record-large supplies of the previous season. Export movement so far this season is off sharply, partly due to the dock strike, but primarily because of reduced supplies of preferred quality beans. However, domestic use has remained at a high level. As a result, the supply situation continues relatively tight, with remaining bean supplies materially below a year ago. Total remaining supplies of white classes are substantially smaller than last year. Among the leading classes, supplies of pea beans appear to be down considerably and the smallest since 1960. Holdings of Great Northerns probably are moderately below the high levels of last year, but close to the recent 5-year average. Remaining supplies of colored varieties as a group also are well below 1964 levels. Larger remaining stocks of red kidneys, cranberry beans, and black turtle soup beans are more than offset by sharply reduced holdings of pinto, pink, and small red beans. Total stocks of lima beans are down sharply from the high level of last year, with supplies of both large and baby limas much smaller.

Relatively light supplies, together with active early season domestic and export demands for good quality beans, resulted in strong markets into late winter. The U. S. price to growers during the September 1964-February 1965 period averaged about $7.70 per hundredweight, the highest in a decade. Prices for most leading classes were moderately to sharply higher than a year earlier. In recent weeks, market demand for colored beans has remained strong. However, apparently because of a slow export movement, markets for several important white classes have been under pressure. Prices for both pea beans and Great Northerns have been declining for several months, and in April averaged the same to slightly below a year earlier. Prices for baby limas also have slipped a little, but remain well above year-earlier levels.

In mid-April, USDA announced a Section 32 purchase program for pea beans. The beans acquired under the program were to be distributed domestically to needy persons. Also, to permit more orderly marketing, producers could obtain extensions of loan maturity dates from April 30 to June 30. Requests for extensions had to be made before April 30.

Price Support Activity

Price support activity for 1964-crop beans has been much below the levels of recent years. During the 1958-62 period, from 2 to 5 million hundredweight of beans were placed under price support each year--about 10 to 25 percent of production. Last season, growers placed 3.2 million hundredweight of 1963-crop beans under support, and 1.6 million were eventually delivered to CCC. This season only about 1.1 million hundredweight were placed under loan, the smallest quantity in many years. About 595,000 bags of pea beans and 222,000 bags of Great Northerns were placed under loan, both down about 50 percent from last season. Approximately 123,000 bags of pintos went under loan--only a seventh of a year ago. The volume of beans ultimately delivered to CCC this year obviously will be well below last year.

Acreage Increase Indicated for the 1965 Crop

Growers have reported intentions to plant 1,570,000 acres of dry edible beans this year, 4 percent more than last year's plantings and 5 percent above the 1959-63 average. Acreage may be smaller than last year in New York, but the same to larger acreages are in prospect in all other major producing States.

New York acreage, mostly in red kidney and black turtle soup beans, may be down 3 percent from 1964. Growers in Michigan, where almost all of the pea beans are grown, plan a 3 percent larger acreage.

A general increase is indicated in plantings of pinto beans. Growers in Colorado, the leading pinto producer, reported intentions to plant 3 percent more acreage. Kansas and Utah farmers intend to expand plantings 25 and 8 percent, respectively, and those in Minnesota plan to plant 7 percent more. No change is expected in North Dakota.

In the Northwest, where most of the acreage is in pinto and Great Northern beans, total plantings may rise moderately. Most of the expected increase is in Idaho, the area's leading producer, where growers intend to increase acreage 12 percent. Moderately larger acreages also are expected in Wyoming and Montana. Producers in both Washington and Nebraska plan 1965 acreages the same as a year earlier.

California growers plan to have moderately more bean acreage this year. Prospective plantings of lima beans are up 7 percent, and plantings of other classes, 4 percent.

Supply Potential for 1965-66 Season

Current supplies are materially below the large supplies of a year earlier, and the 1959-63 average. Because of this, movement during the balance of the season probably will be down from year-earlier levels. Domestic disappearance is expected to be a little smaller; export movement likely will continue well below last year. Despite slower movement, carryover stocks at the end of this season are expected to be sharply below those of year earlier, and the smallest in recent years. Ending stocks of both white and colored classes will be smaller.

If growers plant according to March 1 intentions, and yields equal the average of recent years adjusted for trend, 1965 production of dry beans would be 21.2 million bags, nearly a fifth above the small crop in 1964--and record large. Total supplies of dry beans for the 1965-66 season would be substantially larger than those available this season, with supplies of both white and colored classes heavier.

Since market needs for dry beans next season are not expected to differ materially from those of recent years, the projected supply probably would result in considerable pressure on prices.

DRY FIELD PEAS

Supplies Large
Prices Low

Owing to much larger carryover stocks at the beginning of the season, supplies of dry field peas for marketing in 1964-65 were materially larger than those available in the previous season. Production in 1964, at 4.7 million hundredweight, was practically unchanged from 1963. With supplies abundant and prices low, movement of dry peas so far this season probably is up from a year earlier. Foreign demand for U. S. peas has been strong, and exports during the fall and winter were slightly above the large volume of a year ago. Domestic utilization of peas so far this season probably also has been larger. Despite the high rate of use, remaining supplies likely are much heavier than last year.

Prices so far this marketing year have been sharply below year-earlier levels, and the lowest since the 1957-58 season. Prices to growers during March averaged $3.22 per hundredweight compared with $3.92 in March 1964. During the rest of the current season, movement into domestic and foreign outlets is expected to be a little larger than in the like period last season. But with supplies well above last year, prices probably will remain below year-earlier levels.

Government Program Activity

In January, the USDA announced a Section 32 purchase program designed to assist growers in marketing their large supply of dry peas. Through early April, 13.3 million pounds of split green peas were purchased for domestic donation through the school lunch program and welfare outlets. Also, peas have been eligible for export under P. L. 480 since mid-1962. So far, only small quantities have moved under this program.

Acreage Reduction Planned

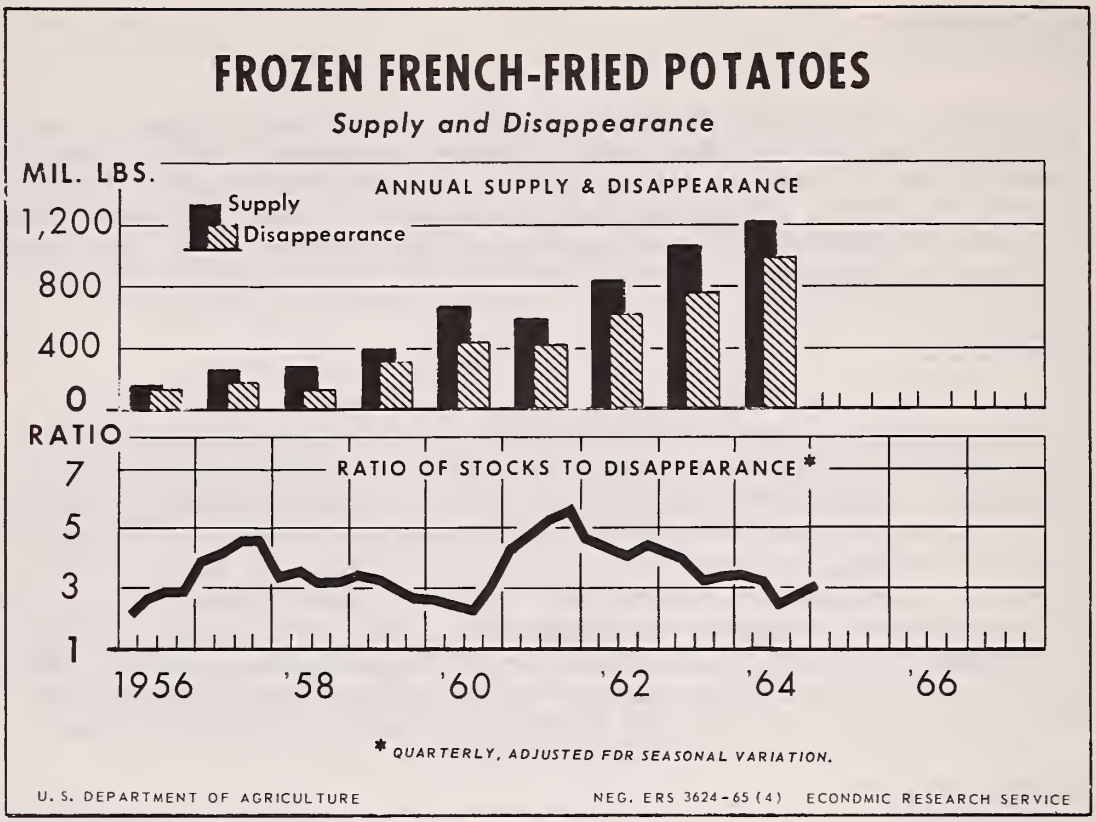
In early March, growers reported intentions to plant 280,000 acres to dry peas in 1965, 13 percent less than last year and 19 percent below the 1959-63 average. Producers in Washington plan to reduce plantings 20 percent from last year, while those in Idaho plan 8 percent less acreage. These 2 States together normally account for more than 90 percent of the U. S. acreage and production. North Dakota farmers also intend to make a substantial acreage cut. But prospective acreage is unchanged from last year in Minnesota, and up sharply in Oregon. The intended acreage, with average yields adjusted for trend, would result in a 1965 production of 4.1 million hundredweight, substantially smaller than in 1964, and moderately below the 1959-63 average.

Only Slightly Smaller Supply Indicated

If current prospects materialize, output in 1965 would be down from last year. However, the effect of such a reduction would be nearly offset by heavy carryover supplies. Despite expected good movement during the balance of the current season, carryover stocks into next season likely will be even larger than the heavy carryover of a year earlier. Dry pea supplies for marketing in the 1965-66 season may be only moderately below those of the current season, and may again exceed trade needs.

The Vegetable Situation is published in January, April, July, and October.

The next issue is scheduled for release August 1965.



Production of frozen potato products in 1964 was a record 1.1 billion pounds, up 30 percent from a year earlier. As usual, French fries were the most important product, accounting for nearly 90 percent of total output. Despite heavy production, markets for frozen potatoes were exceptionally strong, reflecting a continued uptrend in consumption of frozen items, together with the relatively light total potato supply. Over the past decade, per capita use of frozen potato products has been increasing at an average rate of 25 percent annually. But consumption per person in 1964 was up about 30 percent from a year earlier, and totaled 7 times greater than that in the mid-1950's. As in past years, frozen consumption apparently gained at the expense of the fresh. Preliminary data indicate fresh potato use declined materially in 1964.

Potato freezers continued to operate at near-peak capacity during the winter of 1965. April 1 cold storage holdings of French fries amounted to 351 million pounds, 14 percent larger than a year earlier. Although record high, stocks appear light relative to disappearance. The stocks/disappearance ratio on first quarter 1965 was 2.8 compared to 3.2 a year earlier, and an average of 4.1 in the same quarter 1961-63 when markets were under heavy pressure. With the 1964-65 packing season nearly over, prospects point to continued strength in the processed potato market at least through the summer.

Table 4.--Truck crops, potatoes and sweetpotatoes: Unloads at 41 cities, indicated periods, 1964 and 1965
(Expressed in carlot equivalents)

Commodity	February 14-March 12, 1964			March 13-April 9, 1964			February 12-March 11, 1965			March 12-April 8, 1965		
	Domestic sources 1/	Imports	Total	Domestic sources 1/	Imports	Total	Domestic sources 1/	Imports	Total	Domestic sources 1/	Imports	Total
Asparagus	45	--	45	627	3	630	202	1	203	760	--	760
Beans, lima, snap and fava	416	55	471	806	45	851	461	63	524	610	46	656
Beets	39	--	39	57	--	57	42	--	42	47	--	47
Broccoli	254	--	254	316	--	316	205	--	205	367	--	367
Cabbage	2,850	--	2,850	2,850	2	2,852	2,850	1	2,851	2,733	38	2,771
Cantaloups and other melons 2/	1	488	489	--	876	876	--	496	496	--	869	869
Carrots	1,578	2	1,580	1,593	3	1,596	1,643	1	1,644	1,503	--	1,503
Cauliflower	473	--	473	451	--	451	481	--	481	429	--	429
Celery	1,682	--	1,682	1,808	--	1,808	1,874	--	1,874	1,870	--	1,870
Corn	216	--	216	406	--	406	327	--	327	372	2	374
Cucumbers	70	253	323	514	159	673	112	439	551	274	253	527
Eggplant	68	37	105	124	32	156	109	35	144	138	32	170
Escarole and endive	332	9	341	344	6	350	256	9	265	316	1	317
Lettuce and romaine	6,208	--	6,208	6,823	--	6,823	6,228	--	6,228	6,654	--	6,654
Onions 3/	2,229	189	2,418	2,353	288	2,641	2,345	165	2,510	2,360	104	2,464
Peas, green	34	82	116	54	55	109	9	69	78	41	51	92
Peppers	667	126	793	669	112	781	793	140	933	562	122	684
Spinach	384	--	384	329	--	329	313	--	313	287	--	287
Squash	291	18	309	347	17	364	246	56	302	309	29	338
Tomatoes	1,227	1,398	2,625	1,684	1,368	3,052	1,827	985	2,812	1,613	1,481	3,094
Turnips and ratabagas	258	131	389	186	108	294	225	155	380	197	123	320
Watermelons	--	65	65	--	182	182	52	76	128	172	140	312
Other vegetables (including mixed)	1,341	--	1,341	1,409	--	1,409	1,550	6	1,556	1,436	3	1,439
Total	20,663	2,853	23,516	23,750	3,256	27,006	22,150	2,697	24,847	23,050	3,294	26,344
Potatoes	12,923	30	12,953	13,764	61	13,825	11,605	166	11,771	12,151	159	12,310
Sweetpotatoes	831	--	831	852	--	852	699	--	699	646	--	646
Grand total	34,417	2,883	37,300	38,366	3,317	41,683	34,454	2,863	37,317	35,847	3,453	39,300

1/ Rail, truck, boat and air combined. Truck unloads are not 100 percent complete but represent highest completeness obtainable under local conditions in markets covered.

2/ Except watermelons.

3/ Includes shallots, chives, cipolinas, leeks, scallions, and green onions.

Markets include: Albany, Atlanta, Baltimore, Birmingham, Boston, Buffalo, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbia, Dallas, Denver, Fort Worth, Detroit, Houston, Indianapolis, Kansas City, Los Angeles, Louisville, Seattle, Memphis, Miami, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Nashville, Newark, Tacoma, New Orleans, New York, Oakland, Philadelphia, Pittsburg, Portland (Ore.), Providence, St. Louis, St. Paul, Salt Lake City, San Antonio, San Francisco, Washington, and Wichita.

Market News: Weekly reports, C&MS, USDA.

Table 5.--Vegetables, fresh: Representative prices (l.c.l. sales) at New York and Chicago for stock of generally good quality and condition (U. S. No. 1 when available), indicated periods, 1964 and 1965

Market and commodity	State of origin	Unit	Tuesday nearest mid-month					
			1964		1965			
			Mar. 17	Apr. 14	Jan. 12	Feb. 16	Mar. 16	Apr. 13
			Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
New York:								
Beans, snap, green, Harvesters	Florida	Bu. hamper	5.25	3.75	5.00	6.25	6.50	4.50
Beets, bunched	Texas	1-3/4 bu. crt.	3.75	2.75	3.75	3.75	3.00	4.50
Broccoli, bunched	California	14's, crt.	3.75	3.00	4.50	4.75	2.87½	3.50
Cabbage, Domestic Round type	Florida	1-3/4 bu. crt.	2.75	2.20	2.25	2.50	3.75	3.75
Carrots:								
Topped, washed	California	48-1 lb. film bag, crt.	5.25	5.00	5.15	4.25	4.00	4.85
Topped, washed	Texas	48-1 lb. film bag, paper master	--	3.00	3.50	3.25	2.75	3.40
Cauliflower	California	Ctn. film wrpd, 12's	5.50	3.50	3.75	4.50	3.50	4.35
Celery:								
Pascal	Florida	16-in. crt. 2-4 doz.	6.00	3.50	3.25	3.65	4.75	4.15
Pascal	California	16-in. crt. 2-3 doz.	7.15	4.65	5.25	4.75	5.75	6.00
Corn, green (yellow)	Florida	5 doz. crt.	5.75	4.35	4.25	5.25	6.50	4.25
Cucumbers	Florida	Bu. bskt.	13.50	4.75	8.50	9.00	--	7.50
Lettuce, Iceberg	California	2 doz. crt.	4.75	2.75	3.40	4.25	3.15	5.50
Onions:								
Yellow medium	New York	50-lb. sack	1.85	1.50	1.90	1.65	1.65	2.25
Yellow, Granex, Med.	Texas	50-lb. sack	--	2.25	--	--	--	2.85
Peppers, green	Florida	Bu. bskt., lge.	10.50	5.50	3.75	4.00	12.00	7.25
Spinach, Savory	Texas	Bu. bskt. and crt.	2.10	--	2.15	2.35	2.15	--
Chicago:								
Beans, snap, green, Harvesters	Florida	Bu. hamper	5.00	3.25	5.50	6.00	6.25	5.25
Beets, bunched	Texas	36-bchs.	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.25	2.65	3.50
Broccoli	California	14's, ½ crate	3.50	2.65	3.00	3.75	2.75	3.85
Cabbage, Domestic, Round type	Texas	1-3/4 bu. crt.	2.60	2.15	2.40	2.25	2.75	3.40
Carrots, Topped, washed	Texas	48-1 lb. film bag, mesh master	2.65	2.50	3.40	3.00	2.50	2.85
Cauliflower	California	Ctn. film wrpd. 12's	4.50	3.35	3.50	4.00	3.25	4.65
Celery:								
Pascal	Florida	16-in. crt. 2-4 doz.	6.50	3.65	3.65	3.65	5.25	4.75
Pascal	California	16-in. crt. 2-3 doz.	7.15	4.65	4.75	4.00	5.75	5.50
Corn, green (yellow)	Florida	5 doz. crt.	5.65	4.65	4.25	4.75	5.90	4.35
Lettuce, Iceberg type	Arizona	2 doz. head crtn.	4.00	2.35	2.85	2.85	2.50	5.25
Onions:								
Yellow, Granex, Med.	Texas	50-lb. sack	--	2.00	--	--	--	2.65
Yellow, medium	Midwestern	50-lb. sack	1.85	1.50	1.90	1.55	1.35	1.35
Peppers, green	Florida	Bu. bskt., large	8.00	5.25	4.25	3.75	7.00	6.50

Weekly summary of terminal market prices, Market News Reports, C&MS, USDA.

Table 6.--Vegetables, frozen: Cold-storage holdings, March 31, 1965, with comparisons

Commodity	March average 1959-63	1964	1965		
		March 31	January 31	February 28	March 31 1/
	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.
Asparagus	10,837	8,270	11,624	9,358	7,747
Beans, lima:					
Fordhook	n.a.	40,192	39,421	33,839	29,223
Baby	n.a.	44,148	45,706	38,940	33,636
Total 2/	80,532	84,340	85,127	72,779	62,859
Beans, snap:					
Regular cut	n.a.	55,349	79,061	68,314	55,758
French style	n.a.	23,717	35,544	31,126	25,680
Total 2/	68,521	79,066	114,605	99,440	81,438
Broccoli	45,877	55,621	54,989	47,840	49,287
Brussels sprouts	20,398	22,939	30,632	28,387	25,293
Carrots	32,026	40,963	40,258	35,800	34,757
Cauliflower	17,419	20,052	25,499	22,178	18,313
Corn, sweet	70,889	93,959	119,327	101,622	81,380
Peas and carrots	14,392	14,770	17,184	15,488	14,374
Peas, green	115,255	124,600	174,319	147,488	121,561
Spinach	38,735	45,127	42,315	38,222	49,736
Mixed vegetables	23,981	27,770	30,694	29,730	28,024
Other vegetables	95,144	127,432	142,187	139,367	139,098
Total vegetables	634,006	744,909	888,760	787,699	713,867
Potatoes, French fried	194,046	308,657	281,747	324,038	350,939
Grand total	828,052	1,053,566	1,170,507	1,111,737	1,064,806

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Not reported separately prior to January 31, 1960.
n.a. - not available.
Cold Storage Report, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 7.--Vegetables, fresh: Average price per hundredweight received by farmers, United States, indicated periods, 1964 and 1965

Commodity	1964		1965		
	February 15	March 15	January 15	February 15	March 15
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Asparagus	52.00	32.40	55.00	28.90	21.90
Beans, snap	13.80	13.60	9.60	14.30	12.70
Broccoli	9.90	10.60	9.90	9.60	11.10
Cabbage	1.85	1.90	2.60	2.65	2.85
Carrots	1.90	1.75	4.00	3.80	3.05
Cauliflower	9.50	13.50	12.50	12.00	11.10
Celery	5.80	7.40	3.70	3.60	5.90
Corn, sweet	7.80	9.00	6.10	8.10	9.50
Cucumbers	17.60	14.80	8.50	7.80	9.50
Lettuce	5.20	6.90	2.80	3.85	3.45
Onions	2.95	3.70	2.90	2.45	2.55
Peppers, green	12.30	13.80	8.70	7.90	12.00
Spinach	7.50	6.90	7.90	7.90	7.80
Tomatoes	12.00	13.30	8.60	6.10	12.00

Agricultural Prices, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 8.--Canned vegetables: Commercial packs 1963 and 1964 and canners' and wholesale distributors' stocks 1964 and 1965, by commodities, United States

Commodity	Pack		Stocks					
			Canners 1/			Wholesale distributors 1/		
	1963	1964	Date	1964	1965	Date	1964	1965
	1,000 cases 24/303's	1,000 cases 24/303's		1,000 cases 24/303's	1,000 cases 24/303's		1,000 cases 24/303's	1,000 cases 24/303's
Major commodities								
Beans, snap	37,667	36,611	Apr. 1	12,943	10,691	Jan. 1	3,182	3,422
Corn, sweet	44,152	37,551	Apr. 1	18,908	13,762	Jan. 1	4,411	4,209
Peas, green	33,588	30,045	Apr. 1	9,466	7,270	Jan. 1	3,356	3,538
Tomatoes	33,041	36,431	Jan. 1	19,491	20,815	Jan. 1	3,576	3,661
Tomato juice 2/	42,114	43,067	Jan. 1	31,397	32,013	Jan. 1	2,801	2,670
Total	190,562	183,705		--	--		--	--
Minor commodities								
Asparagus	9,263	8,217	Mar. 1	2,512	1,808	Jan. 1	697	704
Beans, lima	3,089	2,213	Apr. 1	1,590	572	Jan. 1	565	563
Beets	12,665	10,709	Mar. 1	7,637	6,844	Jan. 1	1,222	1,303
Field peas	2,083	1,760						
Carrots	5,100	4,471	Mar. 1	3,170	2,489	Jan. 1	609	691
Okra 3/	718	751						
Pickles	4/39,023	4/35,058						
Pimientos	392	686						
Pumpkin and squash	4,015	3,799	Apr. 1	1,531	1,009	Jan. 1	594	559
Sauerkraut	4/12,999	4/9,818	Apr. 1	5/5,403	5/3,777	Jan. 1	850	964
Potatoes	3,508	n.a.						
Sweetpotatoes	8,756	n.a.						
Spinach	8,031	7,641	Mar. 1	2,750	3,276	Jan. 1	713	757
Other greens	2,757	2,882						
Tomato products:								
Catsup and chili sauce	29,790	34,018	Jan. 1	27,871	27,725	Jan. 1	2,371	2,277
Pulp and puree	5,422	5,929	Jan. 1	6/3,812	6/4,456	Jan. 1	n.a.	n.a.
Vegetables, mixed	4,880	5,534						
Total comparable minor items	140,227	133,486		--	--		--	--
Grand total comparable items	330,789	317,191		--	--		--	--

1/ Converted from actual cases to standard cases of 24 No. 303 cans.
2/ Includes combination vegetable juices containing at least 70 percent tomato juice.
3/ Okra, okra and tomatoes, and okra, corn and tomatoes.
4/ Crop for processing converted to a canned basis by applying an overall conversion factor (pickles 83 and sauerkraut 65.9 cases equivalent to 1 ton fresh).
5/ Reported in barrels; converted to 24/303's by using 17.08 cases to the barrel.
6/ California only.

n.a.--not available.

Canners' stock and pack data from the National Canners Association, unless otherwise noted. Wholesale distributors' stock from United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 9.--Vegetables, commercial for fresh market: Index numbers (unadjusted) of prices received by farmers, as of 15th of the month, United States by months, average 1935-39, average 1947-49, and 1950 to date 1/ (1910-1914=100)

Period	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Average
1935-39	114	121	133	130	125	98	87	82	81	90	103	115	107
1947-49	288	305	310	308	277	215	207	196	193	204	241	246	249
Year													
1950	257	213	195	276	231	211	200	170	156	165	214	249	211
1951	338	346	288	333	276	215	203	197	190	211	290	343	269
1952	301	249	294	341	311	294	289	240	203	227	272	285	276
1953	267	273	254	252	251	285	246	209	191	206	226	241	242
1954	254	239	236	265	255	204	222	192	176	202	240	223	226
1955	251	273	260	272	254	220	206	210	226	219	245	230	239
1956	246	276	271	246	262	291	264	202	184	215	281	267	250
1957	241	237	238	271	285	281	269	233	200	213	217	246	244
1958	310	356	401	342	280	218	196	169	186	210	244	227	262
1959	285	288	281	283	261	219	228	212	242	261	270	292	260
1960	300	289	264	272	276	230	244	199	192	211	227	232	245
1961	222	221	227	291	259	284	254	205	207	205	243	227	237
1962	292	319	388	338	330	259	233	202	204	214	234	267	273
1963	325	288	247	255	241	277	271	205	197	221	293	297	260
1964	320	348	331	260	268	277	272	240	241	247	315	286	282
1965 2/	251	270	313										

1/ In addition to the vegetables included in the series published prior to January 1954, the following have been added: Broccoli, sweet corn, cucumbers, and watermelons. 2/ Preliminary. Agricultural Prices, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 10.--Potatoes: Acreage and prospective plantings for 1965 season, with comparisons

Seasonal group	Acreage 1959-63 average	Yield per harvested acre 1959-63 average	Acreage 1964	Acreage 1965	1965 as percentage of 1964
	1,000 acres	Cwt.	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent
Acreage harvested:					
Winter	22.6	180.1	18.3	19.4	106.0
Early spring	26.4	150.1	27.0	34.8	128.9
Late spring	121.7	201.0	96.2	121.2	126.0
Total	170.7	--	141.5	175.6	124.1
Prospective plantings:					
Early summer 1/	94.5	--	81.6	79.4	97.3
Late summer and fall 2/	1,146.4	--	1,122.6	1,196.5	106.6
Total	1,240.9	--	1,204.2	1,275.9	106.0
Alaska, late summer and fall	--	--	.76	.80	105.0
Total	1,240.9	--	1,205.0	1,276.7	106.0

1/ Intended acreage for 1965 as of February 1. 2/ Intended acreage for 1965 as of March 1. Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 11.--Potatoes, winter and spring: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1959-63, 1964 and indicated 1965 1/

Seasonal group	Harvested acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	Average 1959-63	1964	Indicated 1965	Average 1959-63	1964	Indicated 1965	Average 1959-63	1964	Indicated 1965
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.
Winter	22.6	18.3	19.4	180.1	201.7	181.3	4,052	3,691	3,518
Early spring	26.4	27.0	35.0	150.1	154.9	136.6	3,967	4,183	4,782
Late spring	121.7	96.2	121.2	201.0	210.5	--	24,477	20,248	--

1/ This acreage and production is later included in reports of total potatoes.

Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 12.--Sweetpotatoes: Plantings, average 1959-63, annual 1964 and indicated 1965

Area	Acreage			
	Average 1959-63	1964	Indicated 1965 1/	1965 as percentage of 1964
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent
Central Atlantic 2/	37.3	35.3	33.9	96
Lower Atlantic 3/	51.2	42.7	45.0	105
South Central 4/	119.2	97.4	103.9	107
North Central 5/	2.6	2.6	2.6	100
California	9.9	8.8	8.8	100
United States	202.2	186.8	194.2	104.0

1/ Indications as of March 1. 2/ New Jersey, Maryland, and Virginia. 3/ North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. 4/ Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas, and New Mexico. 5/ Missouri and Kansas.

Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 13.--Potatoes: Prices f.o.b. shipping points, at terminal markets and to growers, per hundredweight, indicated periods, 1964 and 1965

Item	Week ended						
	1964			1965			
	Feb. 22	Mar. 21	Apr. 18	Jan. 16	Feb. 20	Mar. 20	Apr. 17
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
F.o.b. shipping points:							
New stock							
Florida, Dade County							
U. S. No. 1, Size A, Round Reds 1/	--	5.08	5.36	8.00	--	6.00	8.30
Old stock							
Colorado, San Luis Valley							
Red McClure 2/	2.20	2.72	--	5.88	5.78	5.92	--
Idaho, Idaho Falls							
Russets 3/	--	--	--	8.95	8.34	9.04	10.75
Maine, Aroostook County							
U. S. No. 1, Size A, Round whites 1/4/	1.70	1.80	2.26	3.92	3.78	3.80	4.94
Connecticut							
Round whites	2.28	2.28	--	4.10	4.24	4.38	--
New York, Upstate							
Katahdin 1/	2.12	2.20	2.78	4.18	4.76	4.76	6.00
Michigan							
Round whites 1/	2.10	2.24	--	4.48	--	4.60	--
	Tuesday nearest mid-month						
	1964			1965			
	Feb. 18	Mar. 17	Apr. 14	Jan. 12	Feb. 16	Mar. 16	Apr. 13
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Terminal markets:							
New York:							
New stock							
Florida, Round Reds 1/6/	7.00	7.00	7.00	--	--	8.50	10.00
Old stock							
Long Island, Katahdin 1/5/6/	2.76	2.70	3.20	4.70	4.90	4.90	--
Maine, Katahdin 1/4/6/	2.80	2.85	3.25	4.77	5.10	5.10	6.20
Idaho, Russets 1/6/	5.20	5.70	5.80	9.40	9.60	9.60	10.70
Chicago:							
New stock							
Florida, Round reds 1/6/7/	6.90	6.50	6.50	--	--	7.50	9.50
Old stock							
Idaho, Russets 6/7/	4.35	4.90	5.40	8.85	8.75	9.25	9.85
Minnesota-North Dakota							
Round reds 6/7/	2.50	3.00	3.25	6.85	6.50	6.40	7.00
	Month						
	1964			1965			
	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
U. S. price received by growers	1.62	1.90	2.08	3.98	4.11	4.19	n.a.
U. S. average parity price	2.34	2.34	2.35	2.55	2.56	2.56	n.a.

1/ 50 pound price doubled. 2/ 2-inch up, washed. 3/ 10-oz. minimum. 4/ 2-inch minimum.
5/ Chippewas and Katahdin, unwashed. 6/ U. S. No. 1, Size A. 7/ Street sales. n.a. - not available.

F.o.b. prices are the simple averages of the mid-point of the range of daily prices. Terminal market prices are for Tuesday of each week and are submitted by Market News representatives to the Fruit and Vegetable Division of C&MS.

Table 14.--Sweetpotatoes: F.o.b. prices at Louisiana and New Jersey points and terminal market prices at New York and Chicago for stock of generally good quality and condition (U. S. No. 1, when available), indicated periods, 1964 and 1965

Location and variety	Unit	Week ended						
		1964			1965			
		Feb. 22	Mar. 21	Apr. 18	Jan. 16	Feb. 20	Mar. 20	Apr. 17
		Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
F.o.b. shipping points								
S. W. Louisiana points								
Porto Rico, U. S. No. 1, cured	50 pound crate	4.38	5.12	--	4.75	4.75	5.32	5.75
New Jersey, orange Jersey type	Bushel basket	3.45	3.45	--	3.75	4.25	4.75	--
		Tuesday nearest mid-month						
		1964			1965			
		Feb. 18	Mar. 17	Apr. 14	Jan. 12	Feb. 16	Mar. 16	Apr. 13
		Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Terminal markets								
New York:								
New Jersey, orange Jersey type	Bushel basket	3.62½	3.75	4.25	4.25	4.65	5.25	5.40
North Carolina Porto Rico type	Bushel basket	4.85	5.65	5.75	5.65	5.65	5.75	6.25
Chicago:								
Louisiana, Porto Rico, cured	50 pound crate	5.00	5.75	6.05	5.25	5.25	5.90	6.50

F.o.b. prices are simple averages of the mid-point of the range of daily prices. Market prices are for Tuesday of each week and are submitted by Market News representatives to the Fruit and Vegetable Division of C&MS.

Table 15.--Average price per hundredweight received by farmers for sweetpotatoes, dry edible beans, and dry field peas, United States, indicated periods, 1964 and 1965

Commodity	1964		1965		
	Feb. 15	Mar. 15	Jan. 15	Feb. 15	Mar. 15
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Field crops:					
Sweetpotatoes	5.16	5.65	5.88	6.25	6.63
Beans, dry edible	7.14	6.87	8.20	8.07	7.75
Peas, dry field	4.04	3.92	3.17	3.20	3.22

Agricultural Prices, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 16.--Beans, dry edible: Prospective plantings for 1965 season, with comparisons 1/

Group of States	Acreage planted 1959-63 average	Acreage planted		
		1964	Indicated 1965 2/	1965 as percentage of 1964
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent
New York and Michigan	655	717	732	102.1
Nebraska, Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, and Washington	326	284	302	106.3
Minnesota and North Dakota	3/	41	42	102.4
Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah	269	257	267	103.9
California	242	216	227	105.1
United States	1,493	1,515	1,570	103.6

1/ Includes beans grown for seed.
2/ Indications as of March 1.
3/ Not available.
Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 17.--Peas, dry field: Prospective plantings for 1965 season, with comparisons 1/

State	Acreage planted 1959-63 average	Acreage planted		
		1964	Indicated 1965 2/	1965 as percentage of 1964
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent
Minnesota	9	8	8	100
North Dakota	9	9	8	89
Idaho	119	115	106	92
Washington	182	175	140	80
Oregon	15	15	18	120
United States	347	322	280	87.0

1/ In principal commercial producing States.
2/ Indications as of March 1.
Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

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